Roland®

MC-80

MICRO COMPOSER

TurboStart

It's a Fact...

The MC-80 Micro Composer builds upon the successful MC-50mkII as a stand-alone MIDI sequencer. It's enhanced by features typically found in many of today's computer-based sequencers. Features include:

- Stand-alone professional MIDI sequencer with powerful composing, arranging, and realtime performance capabilities
- Enhanced 480 TPQN resolution for greater feel
- Several storage options: internal floppy drive, hard drive/ ZIP® drive, or external hard drive via optional SCSI port
- MARK and JUMP buttons provide quick realtime arrangement of songs during practice and performance
- Advanced Quantize, Realtime Phrase Sequencing (RPS) and Arpeggiator functions
- Large backlit LCD for quick song selection and easy sequencing operations
- Assignable footswitch options such as Mark/Jump, Play/Stop, and Fade Out.
- Optional VE-GSPro Voice Expansion Board turns the MC-80 into an independent workstation adding over 1,000 high quality GS sounds and powerful effects
- MMC and MTC compatible with two independent MIDI Outs offering 32 independent parts and 64-voices of polyphony (with the optional VE-GSPro Voice Expansion Board).

Connecting External MIDI Devices

The MC-80 features two MIDI Outs and two MIDI Ins for flexible routing of external MIDI devices. Use the following procedure to connect a MIDI keyboard and/or module to the MC-80:

1. Connect a MIDI cable from the MIDI OUT of the MC-80 to the MIDI IN of your MIDI keyboard.
2. Connect a MIDI cable from the MIDI OUT of the MIDI keyboard to the MIDI IN of the MC-80.
3. Connect a MIDI cable from the MIDI OUT of the MC-80 to the MIDI IN of the MIDI module.

Playing the Demo Songs

Use the following procedure to listen to the MC-80 demo song featuring tones from the VE-GSPro:

***Note**: The VE-GSPro must be installed in order to hear the MC-80 demo song.*

1. Press TOOLS.
2. Press F3 [MIDI], then press F6 [EXPBOARD].
3. Press F6 [DEMOPLAY] to play the demo song.
4. Press F5 [DEMOSTOP] to stop playback.
5. Press EXIT to return to Song Play mode.

Selecting/Playing Songs

The MC-80 allows you to quickly dial up a song and play it without any load time. Use the following procedure to select and playback a song:

1. Place the disk with the song data into the floppy drive.
2. Press SELECT and turn the VALUE dial to select the desired song.
3. Press PLAY to begin playback.
4. Press STOP when you're finished.

Selecting VE-GSPro Tones

Installing the VE-GSPro equips the MC-80 with 1117 tones and 42 rhythm kits. The VE-GSPro emulates the tones of the SC-55, SC-88, and SC-88Pro modules. It is necessary to select a tone map before you select a tone, and then load the song into internal memory. Use the following procedure to select tones:

1. Use the CURSOR buttons to select the track to the right of "Rec."
2. Turn the VALUE dial to select Trk 1.
3. Press F4 [MICRO] and press F1 [CREATE].
4. Use the CURSOR buttons to select Program Change.
5. Press F5 [LIST] to view the tone maps: 88 PRO, 88 MAP, 55 MAP.
6. Press F5 [88 PRO] to select the SC-88Pro map.
7. Use the CURSOR buttons to select the desired tone.
8. Press F6 [CREATE] to confirm your selection.
9. Repeat Steps 1-8 to select additional tones as desired.
10. Press EXIT to return to Song Play mode.

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Recording MIDI Tracks

The MC-80 can record MIDI data on 16 tracks. Use the following procedure to record to a track:

1. Refer to “Selecting VE-GSPro Tones” to select sounds.
2. Use the CURSOR buttons to select Rec.
3. Turn the VALUE dial to select Trk 1, and press REC.
4. Use the CURSOR buttons and turn the VALUE dial to select the desired values for Tempo, Count In, Rec Mode, and Quantize.
5. Press PLAY to begin recording.
6. Press STOP to return to Song Play mode.

Using the Arpeggiator

The MC-80’s arpeggiator allows you to play notes simply by holding a chord on your MIDI keyboard. Use the following procedure to select an arpeggio pattern:

1. Press F1 [SETUP], then press F4 [ARPEGGIO].
2. Use the CURSOR buttons to select Style.
3. Turn the VALUE dial to select SEQUENCE B, and hold down a chord on your keyboard to listen to the selected style.
4. Repeat Steps 3-5 to select and listen to other styles.

Using Realtime Phrase Sequencing (RPS)

RPS enables your MIDI keyboard to trigger sections of a song with different keys. For example, you can copy the verse, chorus, or solo sections of a song to individual keys. Then you can experiment with different arrangements by triggering different keys in realtime. Use the following procedure to load a demo song with RPS patterns:

1. Insert the MC-80 Demo Disk into the floppy drive.
2. Press SELECT.
3. Turn the VALUE dial to select PhraseSeqDemoGs.
4. Press F6 [LOAD] to load the file. Then, press EXIT.
5. Press F1 [SETUP].
6. Press F3 [PHRASE] to display the Phrase Sequence page.
7. Use the CURSOR buttons to select “Key(Note).”
8. Turn the VALUE dial to select 37(C#2).
9. Hold down C#2 on your MIDI keyboard to hear the brass pattern.
10. Press other keys in the key range from C#2-C4 to hear other patterns.